

Brokaw wrote in his famous book: "They won the war. They saved the world."

Mr. Speaker, we're losing this generation of patriots. In fact, Tech Sergeant Clemons and Tail Gunner Joseph Wythe are the last living crewmembers of his unit. So it is with a great source of honor that, in advance of his special day next week, March 27, and on behalf of the people's House, I say, Happy 90th birthday to James O. Clemons of Catoosa, Oklahoma.

JOBS

(Ms. WILSON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WILSON of Florida. I head back to my district tomorrow to face the thousands of people who sent me here to help them find jobs—800 days ago.

Mr. Speaker, what do I say to them? They know the real deficit is jobs. Do I say that the Republicans in Congress don't get it and that they don't understand that people are suffering and struggling and starving and looking for work? Millions of people are out of work, and this body seeks to fire millions more.

Wake up, America. It's time to bring the President's American Jobs Act to the floor for a vote. It deserves a vote.

Mr. Speaker, our mantra should be "jobs, jobs, jobs—and more jobs."

ESTABLISHING A SELECT COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE BENGHAZI ATTACK

(Mr. BENISHEK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, while we are right to focus this week on passing a budget that puts our country back on a responsible economic path, I rise today to remind my colleagues that it has been over 6 months since four Americans, including our ambassador, were killed by terrorists in Benghazi, Libya.

In 6 months, what have we learned? We still don't know why U.S. military assets in the region were not ready, alert and in a position to respond. We still don't know why injured survivors of the attack have been pressured not to come forward with their stories. Frankly, we still don't know what specifically is being done to ensure that decisions about the security of our diplomatic missions are given the highest priority.

I stand with Congressman FRANK WOLF and 58 of our colleagues in supporting an effort to establish a select committee to investigate and report on the Benghazi attack. Only by aggressive congressional oversight will we ensure that our pitiful response to this attack will never be repeated.

I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will join me in demanding the administration provide the straight answers that Americans deserve.

THE SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Safe Climate Caucus to remind this House of the threat that climate change poses to our communities and to emphasize the need for increased Federal investment in new and innovative technologies to protect and improve the world we live in.

This past October, Hurricane Sandy hit the mid-Atlantic, including my home State of New Jersey. Hurricane Sandy was one of the most costly storms in history. Society will bear the costs of climate change. Society is bearing the costs of climate change. The debt was wracked up as we recklessly burned fossil fuels over a century, filling the atmosphere with excess CO₂. Now the debts are coming due as wildfires, droughts, superstorms, and floods—a costly debt in lives and dollars.

We would be wise to invest in more resilient infrastructure and sustainable, non-fossil energy sources, in good science related to climate change. We as a country should rise to the challenge. The United States is not a poor, impoverished Nation. We are just acting like one. We should be investing as if we believe there is a future for us.

HOUSE GOP BUDGET

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the House Republican budget.

When a family racks up debt, it can take decades to pay off. The interest alone can add up to thousands of dollars. That's money that can be spent on braces, college tuition, or on a bigger home. The same is true for government.

Ignoring our debt will force us to break the promises we've made to seniors and to the poor. We won't be able to protect Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security for those who need it. The House Republican budget cuts spending by \$4.6 trillion over 10 years, and it balances our budget within 10 years without raising taxes. In stark contrast, the House Democrat budget balances when Jesus comes back. A budget that spends too much hurts all Americans, but the poor and elderly are hurt the most.

It's time to fix our debt and get our country back on track. I urge my colleagues to support the Republican budget.

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BALANCED DEBT REDUCTION PACKAGE

(Ms. PINGREE of Maine asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, today, thousands of Federal workers across the country, including nearly 5,000 at the Portsmouth Navy Shipyard in Kittery, Maine, will start getting furlough notices. These men and women in Kittery are some of the hardest working, most skilled and dedicated shipyard workers in America. Year in and year out, they repair and refit submarines to the highest standards, on time and on budget. Last year, some of them even risked their lives to put out a fire on board the USS *Miami* and save it from becoming a total loss.

Now the Federal Government is telling them they could have to take what could amount to a 20 percent pay cut. That is going to be a real hardship for working families in Maine and New Hampshire. And to add insult to injury, they could even have their security clearances suspended if they fall behind on their finances.

It is outrageous that Congress has not done its job and passed a balanced debt reduction package. It is outrageous that Congress has resorted to these arbitrary and extreme budget cuts. The public workers in the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and around our country deserve our thanks, not a 20 percent pay cut.

A BALANCED BUDGET

(Mr. HULTGREN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, with the House nearing important votes on adopting a bold, responsible plan toward a balanced budget, I rise today to speak to a question that is on the mind of many families in my district in Illinois and families across the Nation: How does Congress passing a budget directly help our economy to grow private sector jobs and restore opportunity for more American families?

The answer is actually very simple. The House Republican budget would create certainty in the job market through our commitment to reform and simplify the Tax Code, giving entrepreneurs and small businesses the confidence they need to expand and create new jobs.

Furthermore, unlike the Senate Democrats' plan, our budget would balance in 10 years without raising taxes. This would give bond houses and credit rating agencies confidence in our ability to reduce spending and get our debt under control, making it more affordable for families and small businesses to get loans.

Our budget plan means more jobs for American families. Let's act today to make that commitment to the American people.

TURNING A DEAF EAR

(Ms. HANABUSA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, we will be voting on the Republican budget, better known as the Ryan budget, today. This budget has the distinction of actually being vetted by the voters of this country in the last election.

Voters said a resounding “no”: no to the end of Medicare as we know it, no to the Medicaid cuts, no to the repeal of ObamaCare, no to the protection of the tax cuts for the superwealthy, and no to balancing the budget on the backs of the middle class.

This Ryan budget plan that this body will vote on in a few hours does exactly these things again. For the third time, the voters have said “no.” If we pass it, we are turning a deaf ear to the people.

I ask my colleagues to vote “no” on the Ryan budget.

DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT

(Mr. HUELSKAMP asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, next week an important issue will be coming before our United States Supreme Court, and that is a challenge to our Defense of Marriage Act and a challenge to a proposition in the State of California.

I would encourage the Court to not be distracted by many issues circulating. The fundamental issue before the Court is this: the U.S. Supreme Court attempt to provide a radical 50-State mandate to change the definition of marriage.

I encourage the Court to uphold marriage and to uphold the will of the people represented in a vote in California and many other States, as well as a vote of the Defense of Marriage Act by this body and signed by President Bill Clinton. Uphold the will of the people. Uphold the definition of marriage. I appreciate the Supreme Court sticking to those points.

SAVING JOBS AND PREVENTING GUN VIOLENCE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, in a few weeks, transportation security officers, Customs and Border Protection, and Border Patrol agents with very devastating furloughs and cuts are jeopardizing the national security of this Nation.

Today, we can make a decision by voting on the Van Hollen Democratic substitute and a resounding “no” on the Republican budget. The Van Hollen bill gets rid of the sequester. It, in fact, saves 750,000 jobs and creates over 1.5 million jobs. We can do the right thing for America.

Then, Mr. Speaker, I would ask that we look and do the right thing for gun control, gun regulation, gun violence prevention, and pass legislation such as H.R. 65, that is my Child Gun Safety

and Gun Access Prevention Act, that provides for safety locks and educational grants to train people how to be safe in using their guns and also provides for an age level for young people not being able to possess these guns.

This is a way that America wants us to go. Let us travel a pattern of saving jobs and preventing gun violence intervening in the lives of those who need our protection. That is what this Congress should be doing—providing the pathway for America’s success.

CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Speaker may postpone further proceedings on the motion to concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 933 as though under clause 8(a)(1)(A) of rule XX.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

Mr. PERLMUTTER. I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The objection is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 933, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of March 20, 2013, I call up the bill (H.R. 933) making appropriations for the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other departments and agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, and I have a motion at the desk.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the Senate amendments.

The text of the Senate amendments is as follows:

Senate amendments:

Strike all after the enacting clause, and insert in lieu thereof:

SHORT TITLE

SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the “Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013”.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SEC. 2. The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

Sec. 3. References.

Sec. 4. Explanatory statement.

Sec. 5. Availability of funds.

DIVISION A—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

Title I—Agricultural Programs

Title II—Conservation Programs

Title III—Rural Development Programs

Title IV—Domestic Food Programs

Title V—Foreign Assistance and Related Programs

Title VI—Related Agency and Food and Drug Administration

Title VII—General provisions

DIVISION B—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

Title I—Department of Commerce

Title II—Department of Justice

Title III—Science

Title IV—Related agencies

Title V—General provisions

DIVISION C—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

Title I—Military Personnel

Title II—Operation and Maintenance

Title III—Procurement

Title IV—Research, Development, Test and Evaluation

Title V—Revolving and Management Funds

Title VI—Other Department of Defense Programs

Title VII—Related agencies

Title VIII—General provisions

Title IX—Overseas contingency operations

DIVISION D—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

Title I—Departmental management and operations

Title II—Security, enforcement, and investigations

Title III—Protection, preparedness, response, and recovery

Title IV—Research and development, training, and services

Title V—General provisions

DIVISION E—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

Title I—Department of Defense

Title II—Department of Veterans Affairs

Title III—Related agencies

Title IV—Overseas contingency operations

Title V—General provisions

DIVISION F—FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

Title I—General Provisions

Title II—Energy and Water Development

Title III—Financial Services and General Government

Title IV—Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

Title V—Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

Title VI—Legislative Branch

Title VII—Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs

Title VIII—Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

DIVISION G—OTHER MATTERS

REFERENCES

SEC. 3. Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to “this Act” contained in division A, B, C, D, or E of this Act shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

SEC. 4. The explanatory statement regarding this Act printed in the Senate section of the Congressional Record on or about March 11,